Assembly Bill No. 1766

CHAPTER 162

An act to add Section 97.68 to the Revenue and Taxation Code, relating to local government finance, and declaring the urgency thereof, to take effect immediately.

[Approved by Governor August 2, 2003. Filed with Secretary of State August 2, 2003.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1766, Committee on Budget. Local government finance.

Existing property tax law requires the county auditor, in each fiscal year, to allocate property tax revenue to local jurisdictions in accordance with specified formulas and procedures, and generally requires that each jurisdiction be allocated an amount equal to the total of the amount of revenue allocated to that jurisdiction in the prior fiscal year, subject to certain modifications, and that jurisdiction's portion of the annual tax increment, as defined. Existing property tax law also reduces the amounts of ad valorem property tax revenue that would otherwise be annually allocated to the county, cities, and special districts pursuant to these general allocation requirements by requiring, for purposes of determining property tax revenue allocations in each county for the 1992–93 and 1993–94 fiscal years, that the amounts of property tax revenue deemed allocated in the prior fiscal year to the county, cities, and special districts be reduced in accordance with certain formulas. It requires that the revenues not allocated to the county, cities, and special districts as a result of these reductions be transferred to the Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund in that county for allocation to school districts, community college districts, and the county office of education.

This bill would, for the fiscal adjustment period, as defined, decrease the amount of ad valorem property tax revenue allocated to a county's Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund by the countywide adjustment amount, as defined, and require this amount to be allocated instead to the Sales and Use Tax Compensation Fund, which this bill would create in each county. This bill would, during this same period, also require the county auditor to allocate moneys from the Sales and Use Tax Compensation Fund to cities and counties to reimburse these entities for local tax revenue losses resulting from a specified statute, as provided.

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By imposing new allocation duties upon local tax officials in the annual allocation of ad valorem property tax revenues, this bill would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement, including the creation of a State Mandates Claims Fund to pay the costs of mandates that do not exceed \$1,000,000 statewide and other procedures for claims whose statewide costs exceed \$1,000,000.

This bill would provide that, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that the bill contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement for those costs shall be made pursuant to these statutory provisions.

This bill would take effect immediately as an urgency statute.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. Section 97.68 is added to the Revenue and Taxation Code, to read:

- 97.68. Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in allocating ad valorem property tax revenue allocations for each fiscal year during the fiscal adjustment period, all of the following apply:
- (a) (1) The total amount of ad valorem property tax revenue otherwise required to be allocated to a county's Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund shall be reduced by the countywide adjustment amount.
- (2) The countywide adjustment amount shall be deposited in a Sales and Use Tax Compensation Fund that shall be established in the treasury of each county.
 - (b) For purposes of this section, the following definitions apply:
- (1) "Fiscal adjustment period" means the period beginning with the 2004–05 fiscal year and continuing through the fiscal year in which the Director of Finance notifies the State Board of Equalization pursuant to subdivision (b) of Section 99006 of the Government Code.
- (2) "Countywide adjustment amount" means the combined total revenue loss of the county and each city in the county that is annually estimated by the Director of Finance, based on the taxable sales in that county in the prior fiscal year as determined by the State Board of Equalization and reported to the director on or before August 15 of each fiscal year during the fiscal adjustment period, to result for each of those fiscal years from the 0.5 percent reduction in local sales and use rate tax authority applied by Section 7203.1.

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- (c) For each fiscal year during the fiscal adjustment period, moneys in the Sales and Use Tax Compensation Fund shall be allocated among the county and the cities in the county, and those allocations shall be subsequently adjusted, as follows:
- (1) The Director of Finance shall, on or before September 1 of each fiscal year during the fiscal adjustment period, notify each county auditor of that portion of the countywide adjustment amount for that fiscal year that is attributable to the county and to each city within that county.
- (2) The county auditor shall allocate revenues in the Sales and Use Tax Compensation Fund among the county and cities in the county in the amounts described in paragraph (1). The auditor shall allocate one-half of the amount described in paragraph (1) in each January during the fiscal adjustment period and shall allocate the balance of that amount in each May during the fiscal adjustment period.
- (3) After the end of each fiscal year during the fiscal adjustment period, other than a fiscal year subject to subdivision (d), the Director of Finance shall, based on the actual taxable sales for the prior fiscal year, recalculate each amount estimated under paragraph (1) and notify the county auditor of the recalculated amount.
- (4) If the amount recalculated under paragraph (3) for the county or any city in the county is greater than the amount allocated to that local agency under paragraph (2), the county auditor shall, in the fiscal year next following the fiscal year for which the allocation was made, transfer an amount of ad valorem property tax revenue equal to this difference from the Sales and Use Tax Compensation Fund to that local agency.
- (5) If the amount recalculated under paragraph (3) for the county or any city in the county is less than the amount allocated to that local agency under paragraph (2), the county auditor shall, in the fiscal year next following the fiscal year for which the allocation was made, reduce the total amount of ad valorem property tax revenue otherwise allocated to that city or county from the Sales and Use Tax Compensation Fund by an amount equal to this difference and instead allocate this difference to the county Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund.
- (6) If there is an insufficient amount of moneys in a county's Sales and Use Tax Compensation Fund to make the transfers required by paragraph (4), the county auditor shall transfer from the county Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund an amount sufficient to make the full amount of these transfers.
- (d) (1) If Section 7203.1 ceases to be operative during any calendar quarter that is not the calendar quarter in which the fiscal year begins, the excess amount, as defined in paragraph (2), of the county and each

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city in the county shall be reallocated from each of those local agencies to the Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund.

- (2) For purposes of this subdivision, "excess amount" means the product of both of the following:
- (A) The total amount of ad valorem property tax revenue allocated to that local agency pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (c).
- (B) That percentage of the fiscal year in which Section 7203.1 is not operative.
- (e) For the 2005–06 fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter, the amounts determined under subdivision (a) of Section 96.1, or any successor to that provision, may not reflect any portion of any property tax revenue allocation required by this section for a preceding fiscal year.
 - (f) This section may not be construed to do any of the following:
- (1) Reduce any allocations of excess, additional, or remaining funds that would otherwise have been allocated to cities, counties, cities and counties, or special districts pursuant to clause (i) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 97.2 and clause (i) of subparagraph (B) of paragraph (4) of subdivision (d) of Section 97.3, had this section not been enacted. The allocation made pursuant to subdivisions (a) and (c) shall be adjusted to comply with this paragraph.
- (2) Require an increased ad valorem property tax revenue allocation to a community redevelopment agency.
- (3) Alter the manner in which ad valorem property tax revenue growth from fiscal year to fiscal year is determined or allocated in a county.
- SEC. 2. Existing tax exchange or revenue sharing agreements, entered into prior to the operative date of this act, between local agencies or between local agencies and nonlocal agencies shall be deemed to be temporarily modified to account for the reduced sales and use tax revenues, resulting from the temporary reduction in the local sales and use tax rate, with those reduced revenues to be replaced in kind by property tax revenue from a Sales and Use Tax Compensation Fund or an Educational Revenue Augmentation Fund, on a temporary basis, as provided by this act.
- SEC. 3. Notwithstanding Section 17610 of the Government Code, if the Commission on State Mandates determines that this act contains costs mandated by the state, reimbursement to local agencies and school districts for those costs shall be made pursuant to Part 7 (commencing with Section 17500) of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Government Code. If the statewide cost of the claim for reimbursement does not exceed one million dollars (\$1,000,000), reimbursement shall be made from the State Mandates Claims Fund.

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SEC. 4. This act is an urgency statute necessary for the immediate preservation of the public peace, health, or safety within the meaning of Article IV of the Constitution and shall go into immediate effect. The facts constituting the necessity are:

In order to enact the necessary statutory changes to implement the Budget Act of 2003 to allow the state to provide essential public services that are needed to maintain the public peace, health, and safety, it is necessary that this act take effect immediately.